

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-11 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01

/071 W

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R 230500Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO AMEMBASSY SANAA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8001

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

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DEPT PASS COMMERCE AND BAGHDAD

KUWAIT PASS MUSCAT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EFIN, BGEN, YE

SUBJ: FNCB INTEREST IN YEMEN

1. JIDDA FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK MANAGER DAVID ANSELL PLANS
THREE-DAY VISIT TO SANAA ARRIVING 1050 HOURS SUNDAY, JULY 28,
VIA SAUDIA FLIGHT. PURPOSE OF VISIT IS TO GAIN FEELING FOR
LOCAL CONDITIONS
AND EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF APPROACHING YAR OFFICIALS FOR
PERMISSION TO ESTABLISH FNCB BRANCH IN SANAA. ANSELL WOULD LIKE
TO MAKE EMBASSY HIS FIRST STOP AND WOULD APPRECIATE BRIEFING ON
POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION. WE HAVE GIVEN HIM NEWTON'S
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NAME. HE WILL ALSO SEEK EMBASSY ADVICE CONCERNING WHAT YAR

OFFICIALS, IF ANY, HE SHOULD CONTACT ON THIS VISIT. ANSELL HAS PREVIOUSLY SERVED FNCB IN SOUTH AFRICA AND INDIA AND HAS BEEN IN JIDDA ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF. HE IS DEPENDABLE, SOLID, AND HELPFUL TO EMBASSY. HE HAS REQUESTED RESERVATIONS IN HAMD HOTEL FOR NIGHTS 28-30; COULD EMBASSY RECONFIRM?

2. ANSELL COMMENTS THAT FNCB HAS MADE A POLICY DECISION TO OPEN BRANCHES EVERYWHERE IN THE ARAB WORLD, "EVEN RAS AL-KHAYMA AND SYRIA," IF IT CAN GET PERMISSION. BANK DOES NOT EXPECT MAJOR PROFITS FROM YEMEN BRANCH, BUT WOULD CONTENT ITSELF WITH MODEST RETURN ON ITS OPERATIONS.

3. GIST OF ABOVE WAS CONVEYED TO AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD DURING HIS RECENT TRANSIT OF JIDDA, BEFORE ANSELL'S TRAVEL PLANS WERE FIRM.
AKINS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED BAGHDAD.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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